

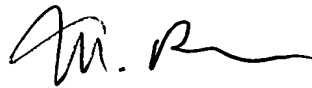
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Submission, claims 1 and 9 are amended and claim 22 is added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Michael Britton  
Registration No. 47,260

JAO:MQB/ale

**Attachments:**

Amendment Transmittal  
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: April 7, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

<p><b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION</b> Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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